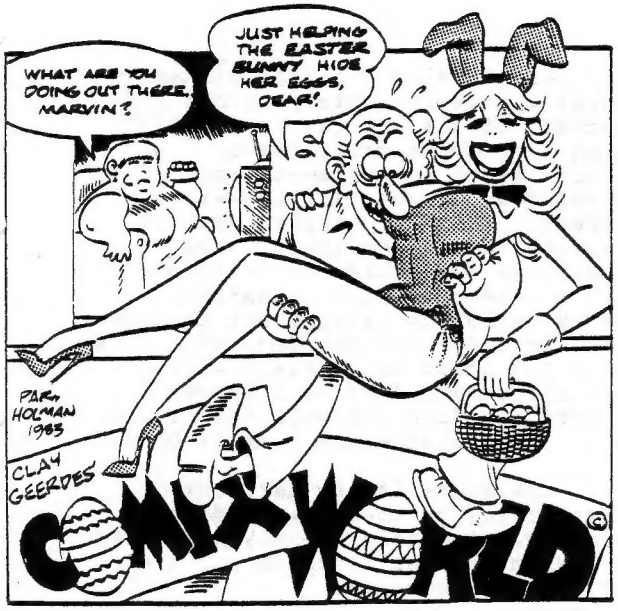
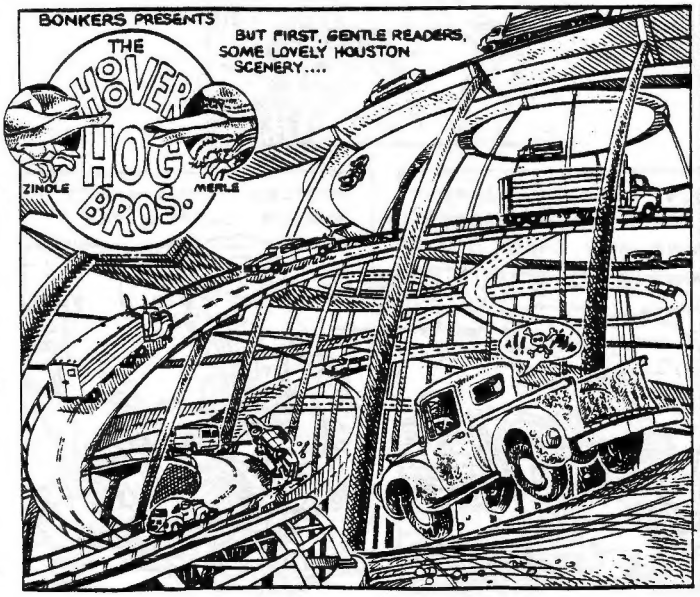
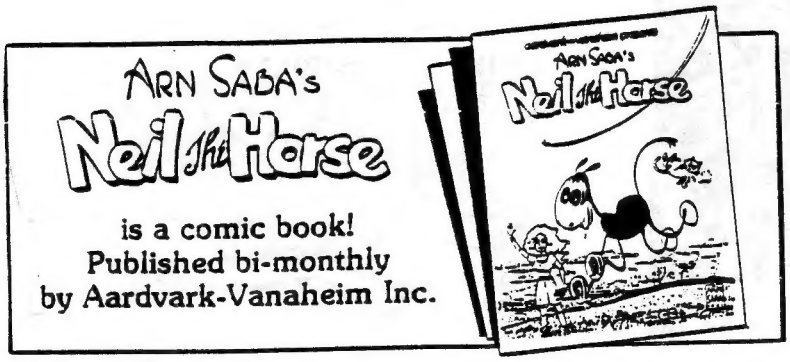

WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT THERE, MARVIN?
JUST HELPING THE EASTER BUNNY HIDE HER EGGS, DEAR!
PAR HOLMAN 1983
CLAY GEERDES
COMIX WORLD

COMIX WORLD 219. April 15, 1983 © Clay Geerdes, Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707. All Rights Reserved. Logo by Par Holman. Par's latest work appears in THE VAULT OF HUMOR 1 (16 pp. digest-zine $1.37 from CW).* RAW 5 out. $4.95. The life magazine of comic art. 27 Greene Street, NYC, NY 10013.* Krupp sold to Capital. Kitchen will retain Kitchen Sink logo and produce SPIRITS and STEVE CANYONS.* Bruce Jones' SPEED DEMONS in TWISTED TALES 2 illustrated by Rand Holmes. Pacific Comics. $1.50. BLACK DIAMOND is modelled on Sybil Danning. #1 out from Americomics, Box 1216, Longwood, FLA 32750. For fans of Good Girl Art.* THE TELEGRAPH WIRE is expanding. #8 is out. Includes an article on Newave by Clay. If you want a copy, send Di Schutz three first-class stamps. 2461 Telegraph, Berkeley, CA 94704.* EL VIBORA 37-38 looks like a Christmas Special with a bizarre Santa Claus on the cover. 39 is a cover by Max. I was asked what EL VIBORA was like. It's like METAL HURLANT before it became HEAVY METAL, a glossy mag with hundreds of pages of good sex and violence and continued stories. $5 should get you a copy from J. M. Berenqueur, Plaza Beatas 3, Barcelona, SPAIN. C.G.

Spread around you are samples of EL VIBORA artwork, some from the MUSIC SPECIAL and some from #36. The Spanish do not have a problem with cartoons and music like the Americans. Don't see any cartoons to speak of in ROLLING STONE or CREEM, but one of the main pubs in Spain in years past was ROCK COMIX. There is a MAKOKI solo out this year. More ug action in Barcelona than in the Bay Area these days.* Robert Armstrong at the Comics & Comix store March 20, promoting t-v watching and the COUCH POTATOES NEWSLETTER. He's the author of the MICKEY RATS. A new one coming out sometime this year, hopefully.* FOUR-FISTED TALES 2 is $2 pp from 405 Ortega Ave., Mt. View, CA 94040. * ROCKETEER is one of the best stories I've ever read in comics and the art is superlative. Kudos to Dave Stevens. I was thinking of entering that Betty Page look-alike contest, but my tits are too small. Can't have everything, huh?* If THE MYSTERY OF WOOLVERINE WOO-BAIT doesn't make you lose your lunch, well, it's $6.50 pp from Joe Coleman, POB 1416, NYC 10009. A big artzine like RAW and worth the investment. C.G.





Neil the Horse #1 -- review by Diana Schutz

Arn Saba is a soft-spoken, gentle man, whose unassuming modesty belies an eccentric and delightfully fertile imagination--alluded to only by the constant twinkle playing about the Canadian's eyes! In 1974, at the age of 27, Arn created a naively optimistic horse, Neil by name, with an impossible anatomy and an all-consuming penchant for bananas! And today, nine years down the road, this wide-eyed funny animal is just beginning to get a taste of long-due recognition with the advent of *Neil the Horse Comics and Stories*, published by those intrepid folks at Aardvark-Vanaheim, Deni and Dave Sim.

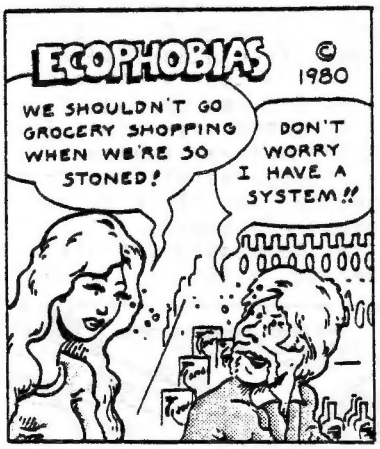
Neil #1 is the first in a proposed eight-issue mini-series featuring the horse himself, along with his faithful companions, Soapy and Mam'selle Poupée. Soapy is a cigar-chomping cat who, with his street smarts and sardonic wit, is the perfect foil for Neil's warm-hearted good nature. And Poupée, ah the beautiful Mam'selle, is truly a living doll: drawn as a marionette without strings, she is an aspiring actress of French descent who moves with the grace of a dancer, looking for love with a wide-open heart. Together, this charming trio find themselves the focus of a myriad of wild and wondrous adventures, often the result of Neil's banana-loving foibles!

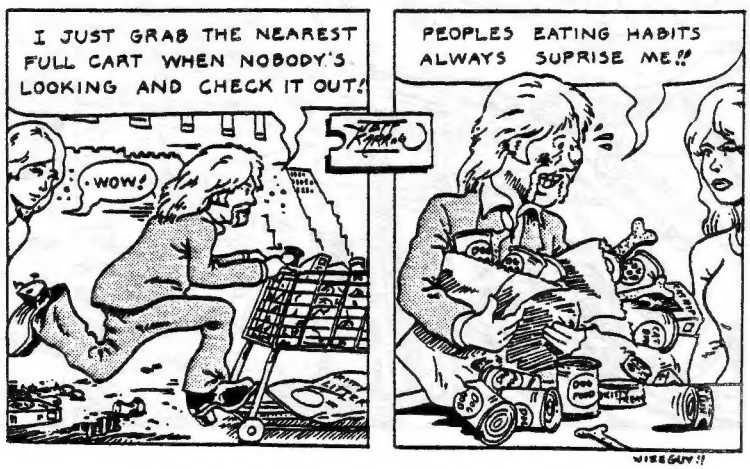
Neil the Horse #1 is a merry conglomeration of early strips (originally published in the *Menomenee Falls Guardian* and several Canadian newspapers) as well as longer stories, both old and new, which find Neil romping across the roofs of Bananaburg and, in one case, tumbling all the way down to Hell! Saba's fine-lined artwork is a visual delight--wonderfully expressive and sprinkled with nice small touches like disembodied hands protruding up through the ground, waving at the reader, or tiny hamburgers showing up in the unlikeliest of spots! Some of this whimsical detail is unfortunately absent from "Sur les Toits de Bananaburg", a more recent story inked by Warren Greenwood, but the unadulterated enchantment of Saba's storytelling is nonetheless preserved--and enhanced by the guest appearance of Greenwood's own Space Dog!

The inside back cover is another joy, especially to all Katy Keene fans, as it features a Mam'selle Poupée pin-up page, with costumes befitting the "Great Women of Ze Comics" such as Daisy Mae, Sheena, and Little Orphan Annie, all rendered by Barb Rausch, a longtime Katy-proponent and talented artist in her own right.

Arn Saba is also a gifted writer, and quiet little insights peek out from all corners of his stories, gleefully catching the unsuspecting reader. His excellent use of language--especially his light-hearted word-playing--is a real treat. The *Neil* stories work on many levels and can be appreciated by both children and adults, a testament to Saba's ingenuity as a wordsmith. The Barks influence is apparent throughout and, in fact, Arn has dedicated this issue to the great man himself with a winsome illustration of Neil whose silhouette, shading the wall behind him, takes on the unmistakable form of Donald Duck!

Neil the Horse is, by far, one of the best comics to emerge in today's marketplace. And this is only the first issue! With another seven to go, 1983 is decidedly looking up!




I JUST GRAB THE NEAREST FULL CART WHEN NOBODY'S LOOKING AND CHECK IT OUT!
WOW!
PEOPLES EATING HABITS ALWAYS SUPRISE ME!!
WIEEGUY!!